

CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Poland

TOPIC Guard Regiment in WARSAW

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EVALUATION [] PLACE OBTAINED []

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DATE OF CONTENT October 1945 to 31 July 1948

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DATE OBTAINED [] DATED 8 September 1949

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1. The guard regiment is quartered in a "WARSAW" (R 55/L 09) barracks which was built by the Russians prior to World War I. The barracks, covering an area 1,600 x 2,300 feet, is located on the eastern border of "Belvedere" (or "Lazienki ") Park, north of Ulica Sadzorznych.
2. The guard regiment [] consists of four battalions of four companies each. The troops in the barracks number about 2,000, including about 150 officers. The guard regiment also includes a recruit training center which is located in a wood camp about 15 miles southeast of WARSAW. About 1,000 recruits were inducted each year during the months of April and May, were issued clothing in the mentioned barracks and thereupon transferred to the training center, a tent camp which was maintained only for the duration of the recruit training. The recruits, upon completion of their basic training in August or September, were assigned to the four battalions of the guard regiment, while about 1,000 troops, having completed their two-year service term, were discharged at the same time.
3. A Soviet colonel has been CO of the regiment since 20 April 1947. The previous CO was also a Soviet officer. Two of the battalion commanders were Russians, two Poles. All other officers of the regiment were Poles. The Soviet officers wore Polish uniforms when on duty.
4. a. The mission of the guard regiment was to provide guard personnel for important government buildings in "WARSAW". About four companies were on duty at all times. The buildings to be guarded included the President's house on the western border of Belvedere Park, the house of the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Armed Forces and several ministries.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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b. Component units of the regiment, but never more than one battalion at a time, were also committed against partisans. Such units left "AISA" by rail or by truck. For the duration of such assignment, the units frequently received tanks and armored reconnaissance cars. The tanks came from the "KB" barracks in the "AISA" suburb of KOKOTOV. They had a short-barreled gun, were painted green and were marked with the Polish eagle. The reporting PW sometimes counted up to 50 tanks.

c. Units committed against partisans usually stayed away from the barracks for two or three weeks. The reporting PW observed numerous wounded and dead who were brought back to the barracks. The troops of the regiment were trained in the barracks area or at a training field near the barracks.

5. The personnel of the guard regiment wore brown-green uniforms (resembling the color of Soviet uniforms) with blue-bordered epaulets. They wore caps with a blue ribbon when on duty, and round or four-edged service caps with a blue ribbon when off duty.
6. a. The guard regiment was armed with Soviet rifles, submachine guns with 72-round drum magazines, light machine guns, heavy machine guns on wheeled carriages, mortars and egg-shaped hand grenades. Besides tanks, four-wheel armored personnel carriers for a 4 or 5-man crew were issued to units which left the barracks on a special mission. The armored personnel carriers also came from the "KB" Barracks.
- b. Guard personnel on duty at buildings, such as ministries, were armed only with submachine guns.
- b. The reporting PW could not remember the number of trucks and passenger cars available to the regiment. He remembered, however, that there had been about 50 horses to draw the train vehicles.
7. The "Information Section" was located in one of the barracks buildings. The section was staffed by 40 to 50 men who wore a metal badge on their lapels, had special authorizations and were in charge of investigations.

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